THEA 2900B: Sophomore Assessment
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Brad Darvas
Class meeting: No regular meeting time
TBD by student and instructor
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Telephone: 678-839-4709
Email: Bdarvas@westga.edu

Office Hours:
Mon. 1:30-3:30
Tues. 11:00-5:00
Wed. 1:30-3:30

Prerequisite: Completion of THEA 2900A with a grade of Satisfactory

Course Description: This course is comprised of a series of interviews, auditions (juries), and other projects/assignments geared toward determining the student’s knowledge, skills, and abilities to continue in the BFA program. This is a pass/fail course. A student must earn a minimum score of 75% to continue in the BFA program. Students will take this course twice once they have completed 30 credit hours of course work with an overall GPA of 2.5, and an average GPA of 3.0 on their major courses. The first semester of this course will be a preparation for their auditions/juries, which will take place in the second semester.

Credit Hours: 0

Program Learning Outcomes:
The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre (Acting):
- Students will develop, through improvisation, various acting techniques, and body and voice development, believable, truthful, and committed characters.
- Students will understand and demonstrate the specific demands of acting styles for major periods and genres of dramatic literature.
- Students will understand and develop the specific skills needed for collaboration with other actors, the director, stage managers, and designers.
- Students will demonstrate their ability to learn and perform dialects and heightened language speech in a clear, articulate and expressive manner.
- Students will develop strong, flexible, and controlled body and vocal instruments that will allow actors to use both instruments effectively in characterizations, and have the ability to project these characterizations in varying performance spaces.
- Students will develop and administer makeup techniques for a wide range of characters.
- Students will understand the basic business procedures of the actor’s profession.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre (Design & Technology):
- Students will develop the ability to understand and articulate basic elements and principles of design theory.
- Students will develop their understanding of the aesthetic use of color.
- Students will develop the ability to communicate design ideas and realities to other personnel involved in the production, including directors, other designers, stage managers, and actors.
- Students will develop the ability to produce and communicate design ideas with freehand drawings.
• Students will develop a fundamental knowledge of the total design process, including the progression of raw materials through multiple design “shops” and the roles that various craftspeople play in the creation of a finished product.
• Students will gain knowledge of federal, state, and local health and safety codes, best practices, and industry standards as they relate to theatrical venues and production elements.
• Students will compose materials appropriate for the preparation and presentation of a professional portfolio of design and technology-related work that demonstrate one’s abilities, strengths, processes, and experiences.

Course Learning Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
• Demonstrate problem-solving and evaluative skills in the practice of collaboration with their peers on a theatrical or film production;
• Develop professional standards for the work they do in the performing and/or entertainment industry;
• Identify and employ these professional standards into their artistic practice, understanding industry protocols and conventions that include personal responsibility, contractual obligations, and ethical standards;
• Understand historical and current industry practices and approaches;
• Apply skills relevant to performance and/or technical/design production.

Instructional Methods:
Discussions of process, the approaches and skills acquired in courses taken prior to this one (as well as those in progress) will culminate in a juried audition or portfolio review and development of website that will be scored with a common rubric for actors, and another common rubric for designers/technicians. Reading materials will consist of articles, papers, chapters that will assist the student in preparation for their juried presentations in the second semester taking this course. Discussion of these articles will take place in class.

Required Reading:
This is largely dependent upon the instructor of record for the course. Readings should cover resume building, an understanding of the difference and qualities that make for strong commercial (film/television) and theatrical headshots, industry standards in terms professional behavior in theatre and film, etc.

Grading: Grading for this course will be pass/fail (satisfactory/unsatisfactory). A student must earn a minimum score of 75% to continue in the BFA program. Failure to pass with a satisfactory will result in the student not continuing on in the BFA program.

• Class Attendance and Participation 5%
• Website 35%
For the designer, the website is an important portfolio tool. Students will develop the shell of their website that will be utilized throughout their career at UWG as they update the website once design work is completed. For actors, the same will hold true: they will create a “shell” of a website to be utilized as a way to show their work, range, and experience.

• Juried Audition or Portfolio Presentation 60%
The course will culminate in the presentation of work. Students will incorporate The work they did in the previous semester: actors will present their headshots
and resumes at the audition, and will discuss, if requested, their intentions and goals (Letter of Intent) for the remainder of their time at UWG, if they continue in the BFA. Designers will incorporate their headshots and resumes in their websites, and discuss, if requested, their intentions and goals (Letter of Intent) for the remainder of their time at UWG, if they continue in the BFA.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>5pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>35pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jury (Audition or Portfolio Participation)</td>
<td>60pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td>100</td>
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Students must earn 75 points to continue in the BFA program.

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1**
Go over syllabus, introduce course, discuss criteria, rubrics, standards

**Week 2**
Discuss building a website as a marketing tool

**Week 3**
Discuss building a website as a marketing tool

**Week 4**
Discuss building a website as a marketing tool

**Week 5**
Homepage of website review

**Week 6**
Continue with website
Discuss selection of audition material
Discuss theatrical photography (for portfolio)

**Week 7**
Continue with website
Discuss selection of audition material
Discuss theatrical photography (for portfolio)

**Week 8**
Continue with website
Discuss selection of audition material
Discuss theatrical photography (for portfolio)

**Week 9**
Work on Auditions
Work on Portfolios

**Week 10**
Work on Auditions
Work on Portfolios

**Week 11**
Work on Auditions
Work on Portfolios

**Week 12**
Work on Auditions
Work on Portfolios

**Week 13**
Work on Auditions
Work on Portfolios

**Week 14**
Jury rehearsals

**Week 15**
Jury presentations